GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3251
ANSWERED ON:14.08.2003
CONTAINER TRAFFIC
UMMAREDDY VENKATESWARLU

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether RITES has estimated that container traffic to be carried by Railways will increase from the present 5 lakh TEUs to 9 lakhs TEUs by the year 2008;

(b) if so, the share of the container traffic presently of CONCOR;

(c) whether CONCOR and the Railways have plans to ensure that they get dominant share of the 9 lakh TEUs projected figure by the year 2008;

(d) whether private operators are also entering the field taking advantage of the delays and other disadvantages exposed by CONCOR in this sector; and

(e) the steps taken by CONCOR to streamline all its operations?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI BANDARU DATTATRAYA)

(a): RITES Ltd. undertook a study on preparation of a Master Plan for Inland Container Depots/Container Freight Stations (ICDs/CFSs) in India for the Ministry of Commerce & Industry. The final report was submitted in December`2002. The total container traffic of the country in the base year (2000-01) was worked out at 23.9 lakh Twenty Feet Equivalent Units (TEUs), of which the Railways carried approximately 5.0 lakh TEUs. The projections for the year 2014-15 were 93.2 lakh TEUs of which the railways share was estimated at 34.7 lakh TEUs.

(b): The present share of the container traffic of Container Corporation of India Ltd. (CONCOR) is 9.29 lakh TEUs by rail and road during year 2002-03 Out of these, 8.21 lakh TEUs were carried by rail.

(c): CONCOR and Railways are fully geared to move 9 lakh containers by rail.

(d): At present there is no private operator of container traffic by rail.

(e): CONCOR has already created large infrastructure of 51 terminals, spread all over India. In addition, it also owns most of the wagons being used for container transportation by rail in India. The remaining wagons are moved by Indian Railways. CONCOR has a business plan to take care of its future requirements.